



Healthy Environments Policy



{Organisation name}

Developing a Policy

What is a Healthy Environments Policy?

A Healthy Environments Policy outlines the set of actions your organisation will implement to create a healthy environment to improve your community's health.

Why are organisations required to develop a Healthy Environments Policy as part of their project with Healthway?

The spaces where people live, work, learn and play have a significant influence over our behaviour. Healthway's under \$5,000 Healthy Partnership Program aims to create a healthy WA by creating environments that promote healthy lifestyle choices to the community.

Developing and implementing health policies is a good way to ensure the spaces we provide for our community are supportive of healthy behaviours. It serves as a very practical and formal way of demonstrating that the organisation is serious about the health of its workers, volunteers and the community more broadly.

What is this document?

This document is a template that can be used by organisations who have received up to \$5,000 Healthy Partnership Program funding to develop a Healthy Environments Policy for their organisation. It contains sample position statements and clauses that may serve as a guide to organisations developing a health policy.

Many of the actions outlined in the template are minimum requirements of Healthway funding and are outlined in Healthway's [Minimum Health Requirements](#).

However, organisations can make changes to the Policy that reflect their values, priorities, and capacity to promote health and wellbeing.

Throughout the document '[yellow text]' indicates where information can be inserted, edited and/or removed. It is recommended that organisations make achievable and realistic policy strategies that can be implemented throughout the partnership agreement with Healthway and can be sustainable beyond the partnership.

If your organisation would like further assistance in developing a Healthy Environments Policy please contact Healthway at healthway@healthway.wa.gov.au or 133 777.

Our Policy

1. Purpose

The purpose of this Healthy Environments Policy (the Policy) is to ensure **{Organisation}** members, staff and volunteers understand **{Organisation}**'s role and position in relation to creating healthy environments. This Policy should be understood in conjunction with the **{Organisation}**'s constitution and related policies.

2. Policy statement

{Organisation} is committed to integrating healthy environment practices into our business operations, to promote and facilitate activities that encourage healthy lifestyles. We aim to provide a safe, supportive, and inclusive environment so that staff, volunteers, and the community can engage in positive relationships and activities that have mutual benefits.

3. Policy Objectives

- To build and maintain an environment and culture that supports healthy lifestyles choices.
- To increase knowledge and awareness of health and wellbeing issues and healthy lifestyle behaviours.
- To facilitate active participation in a range of initiatives that support health and wellbeing.

4. Responsibilities

{Organisation} is committed to creating healthy environments by:

Health area	Our actions
Increasing healthy eating	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Providing healthy food (fruit, healthy snacks, and low-fat foods) are available.• Ensuring sugary drinks are not displayed for sale.• Making free drinking water available.• Not providing unhealthy food/drink (or vouchers for same) as prizes, awards, or fundraising initiatives.• {Insert further strategies}.
Increasing physical activity	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ensuring safe practices for physical activity are adhered to.

- Providing information and promotion of alternative transport options to activities and events (walking, cycling and public transport) – if applicable.
- {Insert further strategies}

Preventing harm from alcohol

- Not providing Alcohol (or vouchers for same) as prizes or awards.
- Ensuring low strength alcohol and non-alcoholic choices are available.
- Not promoting, glamorising or encouraging over-consumption or rapid consumption of alcohol (e.g. discounted drink prices, happy hours, drinking competitions).
- Ensuring all staff responsible for the sale or supply of alcohol are trained in Responsible Service of Alcohol.
- Providing alcohol-free environments at family events and during junior focused activities.
- {Insert further strategies}.

Mental health and wellbeing

- Promoting social and emotional wellbeing through organisational practices and policies.
- Providing a welcoming environment that encourages broad community participation.
- Treating all individuals and groups with equality and respect.
- Providing contact details for suitable mental health service providers i.e. crisis support lines (if required).
- {Insert further strategies}.

Creating a smoke-free WA

- Ensuring all indoor and outdoor areas under {Organisation}'s control is smoke-free including the use of e-cigarettes/vaping.
- Promoting smoke-free areas with appropriate smoke-free signage.
- Applying the Smoking in the Arts Policy to all performances that receive Healthway funding (*use if appropriate within the Arts sector*).
- {Insert further strategies}.

Sun protection

- Providing adequate sunshade.
- Providing free sunscreen at outdoor events.
- Encouraging participants and staff/volunteers to wear sun-protective clothing.
- {Insert further strategies}.

Environmental sustainability

- Avoiding or limiting the use of single-use plastics.
- Working toward effective management of waste including recyclable and organic materials.
- Minimising printed promotional material.
- Participating in a Containers for Change scheme to recycle and fundraise.
- {Insert further strategies}.

5. Promoting this Policy

{Organisation} will promote the Policy regularly via [list promotion channels, e.g. website, newsletters, social media, and announcements during events].

6. Non-compliance

{Organisation}'s management/committee will uphold this Policy and any non-compliance will be handled according to the following process:

- Explanation of the policy to the person/people concerned, including identification of the section of policy not being complied with.
- Continued non-compliance with the policy should be handled by at least two managers/committee members who will use their discretion as to the action taken.

7. Policy Review

This Policy will be reviewed annually to ensure it remains relevant to {Organisation}'s operations and reflects both community expectations and legal requirements.

Signatures

Signed: _____
{role title}

Signed: _____
{role title}

Healthy Environments Policy

Date: _____

Date: _____

Created by:

Date created:

Date reviewed:

Next review:

Enquiries regarding our policy:

Contact:

Phone:

Email: